

THAMNOPHIS RADIX (Plains Garter Snake). **BROOD SIZE.** Brood sizes for *Thamnophis radix* show much geographical variation (Fitch 1985. Misc. Publ. Univ. Kansas Mus. Nat. Hist. 76:1–76). While brood sizes can range up to 60 (Fitch, *op. cit.*; Collins 1993. Amphibians and Reptiles in Kansas. Univ. Kansas Mus. Nat. Hist., Lawrence, Kansas, 397 pp.), the brood sizes reported for Colorado have fallen far short of this. Hammerson (1999. Amphibians and Reptiles in Colorado, Second Edition. University Press of Colorado, Niwot, Colorado, 480 pp.) observed brood sizes in Colorado of 16–21 (N = 9), with a mean of 16. Rossman et al. (1996. The Garter Snakes: Evolution and Ecology. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman) reported a range of 5–20 (N = 8) for Colorado, and a brood of 20 was recorded by Ellis and Henderson (1913. Univ. Colorado Studies 10:39–129). Other records include brood sizes of 7, 9, 14, 20, and 21 (Hammerson, *op. cit.*).

On 23 July 2000 we captured a gravid 58 cm SVL female *T. radix* near Spring Ck in Fort Collins, Colorado, USA. By the morning of 24 July she had given birth to 32 young. The time of year for appearance of young appeared typical (Hammerson, *op. cit.*), but the brood size was substantially (50%) in excess of the maximal brood size previously reported for Colorado.

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